

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~forming the conversion of at least 50% of lamellar particles in a dispersion comprising~~ dispersion of lamellar and optionally non-lamellar amphiphile particles to non-lamellar form ~~having improved phase behaviour, particle size distribution and/or storage stability~~, said method comprising

forming a dispersion of lamellar and optionally non-lamellar particles comprising at least one structuring agent in a polar solvent,

heating said particles to a temperature of 80 to 150° for a time of one minute to four hours,

followed by cooling, ~~after cooling, thereby providing a measurable improvement in phase behavior, particle size distribution and/or storage stability wherein said non-lamellar particles have an internal region comprising a reversed cubic or hexagonal phase, L₁ phase, or mixture thereof;~~

and wherein said lamellar particles have a solvent core region.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said heating is to a temperature and for a period sufficient to provide a narrowing of said particle size distribution, after cooling.

4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said heating is to a temperature and for a period sufficient to provide stabilization of said particle size distribution after cooling.
5. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said polar solvent is an aqueous solution.
6. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said particles are colloidal.
7. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed claim 1 wherein said particles comprise at least 50% of a structure forming amphiphilic component "a", up to 40% of at least one structure swelling agent "b" and up to 20% of a dispersion stabilizing polymeric agent "c", wherein all parts are by weight relative to the total weight of a+b+c.
8. (Canceled).
9. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said heating is to an elevated temperature at which the equilibrium form of the particles is not non-lamellar.
10. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said heating is to an elevated temperature at which the equilibrium form of the particles is not liquid crystalline.

11. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 9 wherein said heating is to an elevated temperature at which the equilibrium form of the particles is L₂ phase.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed claim 1 wherein said dispersion of lamellar and/or non-lamellar particles is formed by sonication and/or extrusion.

14. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising drying said particles followed by resuspension/hydration of said particles.

15.-32. (Canceled).